

RULES
OF
GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF ARCHITECTS AND
INTERIOR DESIGNERS

CHAPTER 50-6
RENEWAL OF CERTIFICATES OF REGISTRATION & PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS - ARCHITECTS

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50-6-.01 Renewal of Certificate of Registration.

- (1) Every certificate of registration as a registered architect in Georgia shall expire on June 30th of each odd numbered year.
- (2) Without a current certificate of registration, it is unlawful to use the title “architect” or “registered architect” or to engage in the practice of architecture in this state. Neither the failure of the Board to send nor the failure of the registrant to receive an application for renewal shall excuse failure to renew a certificate of registration.
- (3) Every application for renewal of a certificate of registration as a registered architect shall be accompanied by a renewal fee, as established by the Board, and a statement from the registrant affirming that the professional development requirements set forth in this Chapter have been met.

50-6-.02 Late Renewal.

- (1) Renewal applications submitted during the three (3) month period following certificate registration expiration will be considered late renewal applications.
- (2) A late renewal application must be accompanied by a late renewal fee and a statement from the registrant affirming that the professional development requirements set forth in this Chapter have been met.

Authority O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-4, 43-1-7, 43-4-9, and 43-4-12

50-6-.03 Reinstatement.

Certificates of registration not renewed in accordance with Rules 50-6-.01 or 50-6-.02 shall not be subject to renewal, provided, however, that the holder thereof may apply for reinstatement. Reinstatement is at the discretion of the Board. The reinstatement application shall include:

- a. A reinstatement fee, and
- b. Evidence satisfactory to the Board, of completion of professional development specified as follows:
 1. 12 professional development units for each year since the last renewal of the certificate of registration or since the initial issuance of the certificate of registration, whichever is less, up to a maximum of 48 units,
 2. In order to be satisfactory, at least twenty-four (24) of the professional development units required for reinstatement must have been completed during the two (2) year period immediately preceding the date of application for reinstatement.
 3. The professional development units required for reinstatement, which are earned within 24 months prior to expiration of the reinstated certificate of registration, may be counted towards fulfilling the professional development requirements to biennially renew that certificate of registration.

Authority O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-4, 43-1-7, 43-1-19, 43-4-9, and 43-4-12

50-6-.04 Professional Development Reporting Requirements.

- (1) Beginning with applications for renewal of certificates of registration that expire on June 30, 2005, a registered architect must have completed twenty-four (24) professional development units, acceptable to the Board, during the two-year period immediately preceding each biennial renewal date as a condition for registration renewal. Of these, at least sixteen (16) units must be in Public Protection Subjects acquired in Structured Education Activities. The remaining units may be in Related Practice Subjects acquired either in Structured Educational Activities or in Public Protection Subjects acquired in Individually Planned Educational Activities.
- (2) An applicant for renewal who has been initially registered in Georgia as a registered architect for one year, but less than two, at the date of registration expiration must have completed twelve (12) professional development units, acceptable to the Board, during the period between initial registration and the expiration date as a condition for registration renewal. Of these, at least eight (8) units must be in Public Protection Subjects acquired in Structured Education Activities. The remaining units may be in Related Practice Subjects acquired in Structured Educational Activities or in Public Protection Subjects acquired in Individual Planned Educational Activities.
- (3) An applicant for renewal who has been initially registered in Georgia as a registered architect for less than one year at the date of registration expiration will be not be required to complete any professional development units prior to that first registration expiration date as a condition for registration renewal.

50-6-.05 Professional Development Definitions.

- (1) “Professional Development Unit” shall mean one continuous instructional hour spent in either Structured Educational Activities or Individually Planned Activities intended to increase the architect’s knowledge and competence in Public Protection Subjects and Related Practice Subjects. If the vendor of the Structured Educational Activities prescribes a customary time for completion of such an Activity, then such prescribed time shall, unless the Board finds the time to be unreasonable, be accepted as the architect’s time for Professional Development Unit purposes irrespective of actual time spent on the Activity. For the purpose of this rule, the terms “professional development” and “continuing education” are interchangeable.
- (2) “Structured Educational Activities” shall mean educational activities in which the teaching methodology consists primarily of the systematic presentation of Public Protection Subjects or Related Practice Subjects by qualified individuals or organizations, including monographs, course of study taught in person or by correspondence, organized lectures, presentations or workshops and other means through which identifiable technical and professional subjects are presented in a planned manner.
- (3) “Individually Planned Educational Activities” shall mean educational activities in which the teaching methodology primarily consists of the architect himself addressing Public Protection Subjects or Related Practice Subjects, which are not systematically presented by others, including reading or writing articles of such Subjects, studying or researching building types, designs or building systems, rendering services to the public, advancing the profession’s and the public’s understanding of the practice of architecture and the like.
- (4) “Public Protection Subjects” shall mean technical and professional subjects, which the Board deems appropriate to safeguard the public’s health, safety and welfare. Such subjects include building design, environmental or land use analysis, life safety, architectural programming, site and soils analyses, accessibility, structural systems considerations, lateral forces, building codes, evaluation and selection of building systems, products or materials, construction methods, contract documentation, construction administration and the like.

- (5) "Related Practice Subjects" shall mean technical and professional subjects other than Public Protection Subjects, which the Board deems appropriate to safeguard indirectly the public's health, safety and welfare. Such subjects include building cost analysis, construction contract negotiation, construction phase office procedures, project management, review of state registration laws including rules of professional conduct and the like.

Authority O.C.G.A. §§ 43-4-9 and 43-4-12

50-6-.06 Professional Development Record Maintenance and Verification.

- (1) Responsibility for documenting the fulfillment of the professional development requirements provided for in this Chapter rests with the registrant, and the registrant must retain for a period of four (4) years the evidence to support fulfillment of the requirements. Such evidence shall include evidence of completion of each professional development course or program, a description of the contents of each professional development course or program, and verification of the number of units of each professional development course or program.
- (2) The Board may verify on a test basis satisfactory completion of the professional development requirements in this Chapter. In doing so, the Board may require registrants to submit copies of the documentation described in paragraph (1) above to the Board and may require other information as it deems necessary to decide upon the acceptability of a professional development course or program. In cases where the Board determines that the professional development requirements have not been met, the Board may grant an additional period of time for the registrant to provide further evidence of having acquired the professional development units disallowed or to cure the disallowance by acquiring additional professional development units.

Authority O.C.G.A. §§ 43-4-9 and 43-4-12

50-6-.07 Professional Development Requirement Waivers

- (1) The Board may waive the professional development requirements described in this Chapter for a registrant who is registered in another jurisdiction that has professional development requirements upon the registrant's written request and accompanying supporting documentation.
- (2) The Board may waive the professional development requirements in cases of hardship, disability, age, illness, or under such other circumstances as the Board deems appropriate based on the registrant's written request and accompanying supporting documentation.

Authority O.C.G.A. §§ 43-4-9 and 43-4-12